



Glossary

This chapter provides the definitions of terms used in this document that cannot be found in a standard dictionary.





3P fall, buck, and scale sampling	A sampling method that determines the volume and value of merchantable timber. The method starts with visual estimation of a stand using the 3P sampling method (i.e., PPP, or, probability proportional to prediction), which operates under the assumption that the probability of a tree being sampled is proportional to its predicted occurrence in a stand. The estimation is verified by cutting down a sampled tree (fall), cutting it into merchantable log lengths (buck), and measuring the logs (scale) noting indicators for defects and log grades. For managed second-growth stands, 3P sampling is generally used to develop volume tables from which stand volumes may be extrapolated. For uneven-aged stands, typically containing larger and often more defective timber, 3P sampling is useful in determining the net volume (recovery).
acre	A measure of surface land area in U.S. customary units that is 43,560 square feet, which is 1/640 th of a square mile (or approximately 0.4 hectares). If square, it is nearly 209 feet on each side.
activity fuel	Debris (wood chips, bark, branches, limbs, logs, or stumps) left on the ground after management actions, such as logging, pruning, thinning, or brush cutting, versus debris left after storms or fires.
adaptive management	A forest management methodology that continually monitors, evaluates, and adjusts decisions and management actions to improve implementation and to ensure that the goals and objectives of resource management plans are being met.
adaptive management area	A Northwest Forest Plan term that denotes a land use allocation (or landscape unit) whose lands are designated for development and for testing technical and social approaches for achieving desired ecological, economic, and other social objectives.
adverse modification	An Endangered Species Act term that is not specifically defined by the act but is generally accepted to denote a direct or indirect alteration of habitat that appreciably diminishes the value of an area with respect to the survival, or in some instances the recovery, of a listed species. In most instances, this standard is considered the same as or nearly identical to the jeopardy standard.
age classification	A system that categorizes trees, forests, stands, or forest types by intervals of years. Age classifications differ around the U.S. by forest type (wet, dry, evergreen, deciduous, or succulent). For this analysis, the interval is usually 10-year increments.
allowable sale quantity/annual productive capacity	These terms are synonymous. The timber yield that a forest can produce continuously under the intensity of management outlined in the RMP from those lands which are allocated for permanent forest production.
alternative	One of several proposed management actions that have been studied and found to meet the goals and objectives of a project's purpose and need and, as a result, is suitable to aid decision making.
anadromous fish	Fish that are born and reared in freshwater, move to the ocean to grow and mature, and return to freshwater to reproduce. Includes species such as salmon and steelhead. Also see <i>salmonid</i> .
analysis	The scientific evaluation of the environmental impacts of proposed planning decisions. The BLM employs many types of analysis (e.g., surface, linear, raster, contiguity, and topological overlay analysis) with a variety of data sets (e.g., inventory and GIS) and tools (e.g., physical, quantitative, data, and spatial modeling).
analytical assumption	A judgmental decision that is based on the science and relationships of natural systems that are assumed to be true and from which conclusions can be drawn in order to supply the missing values, relationships, or societal preferences needed to proceed with an analysis of alternatives.
animal unit month (AUM)	The amount of forage that is necessary for the sustenance of one cow (or its equivalent) for one month.
annual productive capacity	An O&C Act term denoting the volume of timber that is determined will grow in one year in a given area. Also see <i>allowable sale quantity (ASQ)</i> , <i>offer</i> , and <i>sustained yield capacity</i> .
Aquatic Conservation Strategy	A Northwest Forest Plan methodology designed to restore and maintain the ecological health of watersheds and aquatic ecosystems, consisting of four components: riparian reserves, key watersheds, watershed analysis, and watershed restoration.



aquatic habitat	Habitat for vertebrate and invertebrate wildlife species and vascular and non-vascular plants occurring in free water, i.e. lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, springs and seeps.
area	A generic forestry term that refers to the surface land included within specific boundaries and usually allocated for a specific purpose, such as a late-successional management area, a timber management area, a traditional use area, a recreational use area, or a wilderness area. Contrast with <i>block</i> .
Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)	Land where special management attention is needed to protect life, to provide safety from natural hazards, or to prevent irreparable damage to important values (historic, cultural, or scenic), resources (fish and wildlife), or processes (natural systems).
assessment area	A subdivision of a sustained yield unit (BLM district) that has been divided by physiographic provinces.
at-risk species	Species that are determined by a detailed assessment to be in danger of becoming locally or completely extinct.
at-risk community	A group of homes or structures that exist within the vicinity of federal lands or a wildland/urban interface for which a significant threat to human life or property exists as a result of a wildland fire.
authority	The right and power to make decisions and give orders such as the United States Congress exerts when passing legislation like the O&C Act and the Endangered Species Act.
awarded timber sales	A sale where the government has accepted a bid from a qualified high bidder, is binding on the government, and grants specific rights to the purchaser.
backcountry byways	A road segment designated as part of the National Scenic Byway System.
basal area	The cross-sectional area of a single stem, of all stems of a species in a stand, or of all plants in a stand (including the bark) that is measured at breast height (about 4.5 feet up from the ground) for larger plants (like trees) or measured at ground level for smaller plants.
baseline	The starting point for the analysis of environmental consequences, often referred to as the Affected Environment.. This starting point may be the condition at a point in time (e.g., when inventory data is collected) or may be the average of a set of data collected over a specified number of years. Also see <i>analysis</i> , <i>environmental consequences</i> , and <i>inventory data</i> .
beneficial use	In general, any reasonable use of a resource for a purpose consistent with the laws and best interests of the people of a state. In water use law, such uses include, but are not limited to: instream, out of stream, and ground water uses; domestic, municipal, and industrial water supplies; mining, irrigation, and livestock watering; fish and aquatic life; wildlife watering; fishing and water contact recreation; aesthetics and scenic attraction; hydropower; and commercial navigation.
Best Management Practices	BMPs are defined as methods, measures, or practices selected on the basis of site-specific conditions to ensure that water quality will be maintained at its highest practicable level. BMPs include, but are not limited to, structural and nonstructural controls, operations, and maintenance procedures. BMPs can be applied before, during, and after pollution-producing activities to reduce or eliminate the introduction of pollutants into receiving waters (40 CFR 130.2, EPA Water Quality Standards Regulation).
biological assessment	A biological assessment is a document that evaluates the potential effects of a proposed action to listed and proposed species and designated and proposed critical habitat and determines whether any such species or habitats are likely to be adversely affected by the action. It is used in determining whether formal consultation or conferencing with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service is necessary. (50 CFR 402.12(a))
biological opinion	A formal opinion by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service as to whether or not a federal action is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or would result in the destruction of or adverse modification of critical habitat. It is delivered in an environmental site assessment (ESA) and may also offer suggestions for mitigating any excessive impacts so that an action can proceed.



biomass	Unmerchantable and waste plant materials used as a source of renewable combustible fuel.
block	A term that denotes an area of land that has been approved for special management, such as a northern spotted owl reserve or a fire suppression area. Contrast with <i>area</i> .
board foot	A unit of measure for unfinished solid wood used by the lumber industry that is typically expressed as bf or bd. ft. and equals the volume contained in a 1-inch thick, 12-inch long, and 12-inch wide board.
Bureau Assessment Species	A special status species category established by the BLM that includes those plant and vertebrate species that are not presently eligible for official federal or state status but are of concern in Oregon or Washington and may, at a minimum, need protection or mitigation in BLM activities. Also see <i>bureau sensitive species</i> .
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	A federal agency within the U.S. Department of the Interior that is responsible for administering 261 million surface acres of federally owned lands in accordance with all applicable laws to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of those lands. Most of the acreage is in Alaska and the western states.
Bureau Sensitive Species	A special status species category established by the BLM that includes those plant and animal species that are eligible for status as federally listed, federal candidate, state listed, or state candidate (plant) species; on List 1 of the Oregon Natural Heritage Database or approved for this category by the BLM state director; or included under agency species conservation policies. Also see <i>bureau assessment species</i> .
candidate species	Those plant and animal species that, in the opinion of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service, may qualify for listing as endangered or threatened. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recognize two categories of candidate species. Category 1 candidates are species for which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has on file sufficient information to support proposals for listing. Category 2 candidates are species for which information available to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service indicates that proposing to list is possibly appropriate, but for which sufficient data are not currently available to support proposed rules.
canopy	The more or less continuous cover of branches and foliage formed collectively by adjacent trees and other woody species in a forest stand. Where significant height differences occur between trees within a stand, formation of a multiple canopy (multi-layered) condition can result.
canopy closure	The ground area covered by the crowns of trees or woody vegetation as delimited by the vertical projection of crown perimeter and commonly expressed as a percent of total ground area.
checkerboard land ownership pattern	A land ownership pattern in which square-mile sections of federal lands are typically intermixed, on the basis of alternating sections, with adjoining private lands. The O&C lands of western Oregon is an example of checkerboard ownership. This ownership pattern resulted from the revestment back to the federal government of lands granted by the federal government to early railroad companies. The checkerboard ownership pattern of the O&C lands creates additional access, management, and perception issues. Also see <i>O&C Act</i> .
clear-cut	A timber harvesting method that removes essentially all of the trees in an area, whether merchantable or not, producing a fully exposed microclimate for the development of a new age class.
coarse woody debris	That portion of trees that has naturally fallen or been cut and left in the woods. Usually refers to pieces that are at least 20 inches in diameter. Also see <i>coarse woody debris classes</i> .
coarse woody debris classes	There are four classes that are used to describe coarse woody debris. The classes range from Class I which has the least decay and the bark is intact, the log is hard, to Class four in which the coarse woody debris has decayed to the point that it is nearly incorporated into the forest floor.
commercial forest land base	Forest lands declared suitable for producing timber and having a minimum level of productivity of 20 cubic feet/acre/year. Contrast with <i>harvest land base</i> .



commercial thinning	Any type of thinning producing merchantable material at least equal to the value of the direct cost of harvesting. See <i>thinning</i> .
congressionally reserved areas (or congressional reserves)	Areas that are established by an Act of Congress or Executive Order, such as national parks, wild and scenic rivers, national recreation areas, wilderness, and national monuments.
connectivity block	A Northwest Forest Plan term that denotes a corridor that links areas of northern spotted owl habitat. Contrast with <i>Connectivity/Diversity Block</i> .
Connectivity/Diversity Block	A subdivision of the matrix land use allocation in the current Resource Management Plans that serves as a corridor to link late-successional and old-growth forests to facilitate the movement, feeding, and breeding of late-successional and old-growth species. These blocks are managed to maintain between 25 and 30 percent of late-successional forest within them. Contrast with <i>connectivity block</i> .
conservation	The management of natural resources (a species, group of species, or ecosystem) such that plant and animal habitat is protected and resource productivity is sustainable, while providing for human use and ensuring that the full complement of species and processes will continue to exist well-distributed throughout a planning area.
conservation agreement	A document of agreement between agencies that outlines conservation goals necessary to reduce, eliminate, or mitigate specific threats to species at risk, and provides general guidance on species management.
conservation strategy	A management plan for a species, group of species, or ecosystem that prescribes standards and guidelines that if implemented provide a high likelihood that the species, groups of species, or ecosystem, with its full complement of species and processes, will continue to exist well-distributed throughout a planning area.
consultation	A formal review between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine fisheries Service, and another federal agency when it is determined that an action by the agency may affect critical habitat or a species that has been listed as threatened or endangered to ensure that its action does not jeopardize a listed species or destroy or adversely modify critical habitat. Also see <i>environment site assessment (ESA)</i> .
cooperators and cooperating agencies	Those individuals and agencies that provide qualified information to a federal agency, such as the BLM, to use in formulating resource management actions and analyzing environmental consequences. The Council on Environmental Quality regulations that implement the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act define a cooperating agency as any agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise for proposals that are covered by the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1501.6). BLM planning regulations (43 CFR 1610.3-15(b)) further provide that eligible Federal agencies, state and local governments, and federally recognized Indian tribes may also participate as cooperating agencies.
Coos Bay Wagon Road (CBWR) lands	The public lands that were granted to the Southern Oregon Company, for the construction of a military road, and subsequently revested by the United States and later incorporated into the O&C Act. Also see the <i>Oregon and California Lands (O&C) Act</i> .
corridor	A strip of land that links areas in a fragmented landscape to facilitate the passage of animals, plants, people, energy, or materials between habitat or service areas. Examples are biological, recreation, transportation, or utility corridors. Biological corridors are reserved from substantial disturbance. Also see <i>connectivity block</i> and <i>connectivity/diversity block</i> .
critical habitat	An Endangered Species Act term that denotes a specified geographic area that is occupied by a federally-listed species and on which the physical and biological features are found that are essential to the conservation and recovery of that species and that may require special management or protection.
crown	The upper part of a tree that has live branches and foliage.



crown bulk density	A measure of the fuel in a forest's canopy that is usually calculated by dividing the canopy volume by the weight of the needles, leaves, and smaller branches (or calculated using the height-to-crown base, tree height, and basal area values). Contrast with <i>crown density</i> .
crown density	A measure of the density of a tree's crown that is calculated from the amount, compactness, and depth of the foliage in the tree's crown. Contrast with <i>crown bulk density</i> .
crown fire	Fire that moves through the crowns of adjacent trees independent of any surface fire. Crown fires can often move faster and ahead of ground fires.
cumulative effect	The impact on the environment that results from the incremental impacts of an action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor, but collectively significant, actions taking place over a period of time.
determination of NEPA adequacy (DNA)	An interim step in BLM's internal analysis process that documents that a proposed action is adequately analyzed in an existing NEPA document (EIS or EA). Where applicable, the determination also documents conformance with an approved land use plan. (BLM NEPA Handbook, 516 DM 11).
dispersal habitat	Forest habitat that allows northern spotted owls to move (disperse) across the landscape, typically characterized by forest stands with average tree diameters of greater than 11 inches, and conifer overstory trees having closed canopies (greater than 40 percent canopy closure) with open space beneath the canopy to allow owls to fly.
disturbance (natural)	A force that causes significant change in structure and/or composition through natural events such as fire, flood, wind, or earthquake, mortality caused by insect or disease outbreaks.
dominant use	A land use that is the primary purpose for the land use designation, for instance, wildlife habitat on National Wildlife Refuges or timber production on O&C lands. Contrast with <i>multiple use</i> .
environmental consequences	The direct, indirect and cumulative effects of a proposed action or alternative on existing conditions in the environment in which the action(s) would occur. >... Also see <i>baseline</i> .
environmental impact statement	A detailed statement, required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, of a federal project's environmental consequences, including adverse environmental consequences, including adverse environmental effects that cannot be avoided, alternatives to the proposed action, the relationship between local short-term uses and long-term productivity, and any irreversibly or irretrievable commitment of resource.
Evolutionary Significant Unit	A population or group of populations considered "distinct", and hence a "species" for purposes of the Endangered Species Act, representing an evolutionarily significant unit (ESU) of the biological species. A population must satisfy two criteria to be considered an ESU. It must be reproductively isolated from other conspecific population units, and it must represent an important component in the evolutionary legacy of the species. Isolation does not have to be absolute, but must be strong enough to permit evolutionarily important differences to accrue in different population units. The second criterion is met if the population contributes substantially to the ecological/genetic diversity of the species as a whole. (NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS F/NWC-194)
fifth-field watershed	One of the classifications of watersheds used by the United States Geological Survey that identifies some of the smallest watersheds and is useful for assessing water-related issues generally 20 to 200 square miles in size. For details about the classification of drainage areas, see http://water.usgs.gov/GIS/huc.html . Also see <i>watershed</i> .
forest	An ecosystem that is characterized by stands of trees varying in characteristics such as species composition, structure, age class, and associated processes, and commonly including meadows, streams, fish, and wildlife.
floodplain	Level lowland bordering a stream or river onto which the flow spreads at flood stage.
forage	All browse and herbaceous matter available to grazing animals, including wildlife and domestic livestock.



Forest Ecosystem Management Assessment Team	The 1993 presidentially assigned team of scientists, researchers, and technicians from seven federal agencies that created the report that was used as the basis for the Northwest Forest Plan.
forest land	Land at least 10 percent stocked by forest trees of any size, and including land that formerly had such tree cover and that will be naturally or artificially regenerated
Forest Operations Inventory (FOI)	An intensive inventory that provides managers with information regarding the age, species, stand location, size, silvicultural needs, and recommended treatment of stands based on individual stand conditions and productivity.
fuel loading	The dry weight of all accumulated live and dead woody and herbaceous material on the forest floor that is available for combustion, and which poses a fire hazard.
green tree	A live tree.
green tree retention	A stand management practice in which live trees as well as snags and large down wood, are left within harvest units to provide a legacy of habitat components over the next management cycle
growth and yield modeling	Estimations of timber volumes that are expected to be produced per unit area under a certain set of conditions. Also see <i>modeling</i> .
forest habitat	An area containing the forest vegetation with the age class, species composition, structure, sufficient area, and adequate food source to meet some or all of the life needs (foraging, roosting, nesting, breeding) of specific species.
habitat-capable forests	Forested stands that are capable of developing into suitable habitat specifically for the northern spotted owl.
harvesting	The process of on-site cutting and removing merchantable trees from a forested area.
harvest land base	Those lands that are available for timber harvesting on a programmed sustained basis. Generally, a harvest land base does not include managed or other reserved lands, nonforested lands, or areas that the timber production capability classification inventory has determined are not capable of sustaining timber production. Also see <i>timber production capability classification</i> .
incidental take	An Endangered Species Act term that denotes the taking of a species that is listed as threatened or endangered inadvertently, rather than purposely, while carrying out otherwise lawful activity. Also see <i>take</i> .
incorporated by reference	Documents referenced in this draft environmental impact statement that are provided by the individual subject matter experts, are maintained as a part of the administrative record housed at a centralized location, and are available upon request.
intensively managed timber stands	Forest stands that are managed to obtain a high level of timber volume and quality per unit area by using growth-enhancing practices, such as precommercial thinning, commercial thinning, and fertilization.
intrinsic potential	A stream's inherent ability to provide high-quality habitat for salmonids.
inventory data	Information collected by the use of objective sampling methods designed to quantify the spatial distribution, composition, and rates of change of forest parameters within specified levels of precision. Note, inventories may be made of all forest resources including trees and other vegetation, fish and wildlife etc. Also see <i>baseline</i> .
jeopardy	The endangerment of the continued existence of a species that is listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act. Also a finding made through consultation by a federal agency under the Endangered Species Act regarding an action proposed by the agency that may cause such endangerment.
key watershed	A Northwest Forest Plan term, that denotes a watershed that contains habitat for potentially threatened species, stocks of anadromous salmonids, or other potentially threatened fish, or is an area of high-quality water and fish habitat. Also see <i>watershed</i> .
land use allocation	A designation for a use that is allowed, restricted, or prohibited for a particular area of land, such as the matrix, adaptive management, late-successional reserve, or critical habitat land use allocations.
landscape	A broad expanse of terrain up to the watershed scale of 10,000 to 20,000 acres that spans several ecosystems irrespective of ownership or other political boundaries.



late-successional forest	A forest that is in its mature stage and contains a diversity of structural characteristics, such as live trees, snags, woody debris, and a patchy, multilayered canopy.
late-successional management area	A designated area outside of the harvest land base that is actively managed to protect or enhance conditions of late successional forest base.
late-successional reserve	A Northwest Forest Plan term that denotes a land use allocation and has been reserved from programmed timber harvesting and designated to maintain existing or future mature old-growth, or late successional habitat.
load	The amount of material entering a system, such as point source and nonpoint source pollutants. Typically measured as pounds per day and significant in relation to the volume and circulation of the water or air mass in question. Also see <i>point source</i> and <i>nonpoint source</i> .
long term	A period of time that is used as an analytical time frame and starts more than 10 years after the implementation of a resource management plan, depending on the resource being analyzed. Also see <i>short term</i> .
matrix	A Northwest Forest Plan term that denotes a land use allocation for the federal lands that are outside of reserves, withdrawn areas, and late-successional areas. For the purpose of this draft environmental impact statement, this term will apply only to the No Action alternative.
mature stage	Generally begins as tree growth rates stop increasing (after culmination of mean annual increment), and as tree mortality shifts from density-dependent mortality to density-independent mortality.
merchantable	trees or stands having the size, quality and condition suitable for marketing under a given economic condition, even if not immediately accessible for logging
modeling	A scientific method that operates by a structured set of rules and procedures to simulate current conditions and predict future conditions. Also see <i>analysis</i> .
multiple use	A Federal Land Policy and Management Act term that denotes "...the management of the public lands and their various resource values so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; the use of some land for less than all of the resources; a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including, but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific and historical values; and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment with consideration being given to the relative values of the resources and not necessarily to the combination of uses that will give the greatest economic return or the greatest unit output." (U.S. Code, Title 43, Chapter 35, Subchapter I, § 1702 (c)) Contrast with <i>dominant use</i>
National Marine Fisheries Service	A federal agency under the United States Department of Commerce that is responsible for working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance anadromous fish and their habitats.
natural fire regime class	A general classification of how fire would behave over time in the absence of human intervention.
nonpoint source pollution	Water or air pollutants where the source of the pollutant is not readily identified and is diffuse, such as the runoff from urban areas, agricultural lands, or forest lands. Also see <i>point source</i> .
Northwest Forest Plan	A 1994 common management approach for the 19 national forests and 7 BLM districts located in the Pacific Northwest ecological region and jointly approved by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior.
overstory	That portion of trees forming the uppermost canopy layer in a forest stand which consists of more than one distinct layer.



partial harvesting	For the purpose of defining management action in alternative three, partial harvest is a timber harvesting method that removes a substantial portion of the stand basal area (50-70%) on a harvest interval that mimics the historic average return interval for a moderate or mixed-severity fire
physiographic province	A region of the landscape with distinctive geographical features. When physiographic provinces subdivide sustained yield units (i.e., BLM districts), assessment areas are created.
plan conformance	The determination that a management action is consistent with the terms, conditions, decisions, and within the anticipated environmental consequences of an approved resource management plan.
point source	An origin of water or air pollutants that is readily identified, such as the discharge or runoff from an individual industrial plant or cattle feedlot. Also see <i>nonpoint source</i> .
preferred alternative	A National Environmental Policy Act term that denotes the alternative, in a draft Environmental Impact Statement, that is preferred by the proposing agency.
proper functioning condition	The state of a riparian wetland area having the vegetation, landform, and large woody debris that are necessary for the species, habitat, and natural processes of an area.
public domain lands	Original holdings of the United States that were never granted or conveyed to other jurisdictions or never reacquired by exchange for other public domain lands.
public land	Land that is owned and controlled by some governmental entity (federal, state, county, or other municipality).
record of decision (ROD)	A document required by the National Environmental Policy Act, that is separate from, but associated with, an environmental impact statement. The ROD publicly and officially discloses the responsible official's decision on which alternative assessed in the EIS will be implemented.
recovery plan	A plan for the conservation and survival of an endangered species or a threatened species listed under the Endangered Species Act for the purpose of improving the status of the species to the point where listing is no longer required.
recruitment habitat	A stand that is capable of becoming habitat for a designated species within a designated period of time.
regeneration	(n.) Tree seedlings or saplings existing in a stand. (v.) The process of re-establishing trees on a tract of forest land where harvest or some natural event has removed the existing trees.
regeneration harvesting	Any removal of trees intended to assist regeneration already present or make regeneration possible.
replacement habitat	A stand of equivalent habitat value to a designated species that is made available as a replacement for habitat that is lost within the same population boundary.
resource management plan (RMP)	A BLM planning document, prepared in accordance with Section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act that presents systematic guidelines for making resource management decisions for a resource area. An RMP is based on an analysis of an area's resources, their existing management, and their capability for alternative uses. RMPs are issue oriented and developed by an interdisciplinary team with public participation. Also see <i>adaptive management</i> .
riparian area	A geographic area containing an aquatic ecosystem and adjacent upland areas that directly affect it. This includes floodplain, woodlands, and all areas within a horizontal distance of approximately 100 feet from the normal line of high water of a stream channel or from the shoreline of a standing body of water.
road decommissioning	The act of removing a road that is no longer needed for management purposes. There are five levels of road decommissioning practices. Decommissioning of roads always includes blocking vehicular access (Level 1) and may also include any combination of the following: removing cross drains (Level 2), seeding and mulching the road surface (Level 3), tilling the road surface (Level 4), and recontouring the road structure (Level 5).



salmonid	Fish that are born and reared in freshwater, move to the ocean to grow and mature, and return to freshwater to reproduce. Includes species such as salmon and steelhead. Also see <i>anadromous fish</i> .
salvage cutting	The removal of dead trees or trees damaged or dying because of injurious agents other than competition, to recover economic value that would otherwise be lost.
short term	A period of time that is used as an analytical time frame and is within the first 10 years of the implementation of a resource management plan. Also see <i>long term</i> .
silvicultural system	A planned series of treatments for tending, harvesting, and re-establishing a stand. The system name is based on the number of age classes managed within a stand, e.g., <i>even-aged</i> , <i>two-aged</i> , <i>uneven-aged</i> .
site potential tree height	The average height of dominant and co-dominant trees on a given geographical area, expressed in terms of average tree height at a specified index or base age
sold timber sales	Timber a sale for which there has is a qualified purchaser has been established through auction or negotiation, but where the BLM has yet to approve and consummate the timber sale contract. See <i>awarded timber sales</i> >
special forest products	Those plant and fungi resources that are harvested, gathered, or collected by permit, and have social, economical, or spiritual value. Common examples include mushrooms, firewood, Christmas trees, tree burls, edibles and medicinals, mosses and lichens, floral and greenery, and seeds and cones, but not soil, rocks, fossils, insects, animal parts, or any timber products of commercial value.
special status species	Those species that are listed by the Endangered Species Act as threatened or endangered (including proposed and candidate species), listed by a state as being of special concern (state listed species), and listed by the BLM as sensitive or needing assessment (i.e., Bureau sensitive species and Bureau assessment species).
stand	An aggregation of trees occupying a specific area and sufficiently uniform in composition, age, arrangement, and condition so that it is distinguishable from the forest in adjoining areas.
stand establishment stage	The developmental stage extending from stand initiation until stands have reached canopy closure and density-dependent tree mortality begins.
standards and guidelines	Northwest Forest Plan rules for managing the different land use allocations. For the purpose of this draft environmental impact statement, this term will apply only to the No Action alternative.
structurally complex stage	Stage at which stands develop characteristics approximating “old-growth” stands described in many analyses associated with the Northwest Forest Plan.
structural legacies	The large trees, down logs, snags, and other components of a forest stand that are left after harvesting for the purpose of maintaining site productivity and providing structures and ecological functions in subsequent stands.
structural stage classifications of forests	A scheme that is used to define the structural stages of forests. It uses four broad classifications (stand establishment, young, mature, and structurally complex) and multiple subclassifications to distinguish the differences within classifications.
suitable habitat	A stand that has the structures (physical and biological features) necessary to meet the biological requirements of a particular species.
sustainability	Sustainability can be defined as using, developing and protecting resources in a manner that enables people to meet current needs and provides that future generations can also meet future needs, from the joint perspective of environmental, economic and community objectives.
sustained yield	The volume of timber that a forest can produce continuously at a given intensity of management. The achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of a high-level annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources without impairment of the productivity of the land.
sustained yield capacity	The volume of timber that can be offered for sale each year from an area based upon the consistent volume of timber that a forest can produce continuously. Also see <i>annual productive capacity</i> .



Sustained yield unit	A BLM district.
take	An Endangered Species Act term that denotes the act of or the attempt to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect a species listed as threatened or endangered. Also see <i>incidental take</i> .
thinning	A cultural treatment made to reduce stand density of trees primarily to improve growth, enhance forest health, or recover potential mortality.
timber	Forest crops or stands, or wood that is harvested from forests and is of a character and quality suitable for manufacture into lumber and other wood products rather than for use as fuel.
timberland	Forested land that is capable of producing crops of industrial wood at a rate of at least 20 cf/ac per year and has not been withdrawn from timber production. (Some forest lands are not classified by the FIA (US Forest Service Inventory and Analysis) as timberland because they are unproductive and some—such as national parks and wildernesses—because by law, they are off limits to harvesting.)
timber production capability classification (TPCC)	An analytical tool that inventories and identifies sites that are capable of sustaining intensive timber management without it degrading their productive capacity. This tool evaluates a site's soil depth, available moisture, slope, drainage, and stability to determine a site's capacity for timber management activity. Sites that prove incapable of sustaining intensive timber management are typically not included in the harvest land base. Also see <i>harvest land base</i> .
uncharacteristic wildfires	Those fires that are not typical for an area in terms of frequency, size, or intensity. An example would be fires that burn bigger and hotter in areas where natural fires have been suppressed and combustibles have been allowed to accumulate.
uneven-aged management	A combination of actions that simultaneously maintains continuous tall forest cover, recurring regeneration of desirable species, and the orderly growth and development of trees through a range of diameter or age classes.
United States Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	A federal agency under the United States Department of the Interior that is responsible for administering the nation's public lands.
United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	A federal agency under the United States Department of the Interior that is responsible for working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats.
United States Forest Service (USFS)	A federal agency under the United States Department of Agriculture that is responsible for administering the nation's national forests.
watershed	All of the land and water within the boundaries of a drainage area that is separated by land ridges from other drainage areas. Larger watersheds can contain smaller watersheds that all ultimately flow their surface water to a common point. Also see <i>fifth-field watershed</i> and <i>key watershed</i> .
wildfire	Any nonstructural fire, other than prescribed burns, that occurs on wildland.
wildland	Lands that are not dedicated to such uses as agricultural, urban, mining, or parks.
Wildland/Urban Interface	The area in which structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland.
young stage	Characterized by the predominance of density-dependent tree mortality, and, in high density stands, a small range of tree diameters.